

# The Greenville News

SUSAN MULLINAX

Legal Advertising Representative

## AFFIDAVIT

I, Susan Mullinax, being the legal advertising agent for *The Greenville News*, do hereby testify that the attached legal ad was published on 176 lines in *The Greenville News* on 1/30, 2005.

Susan Mullinax  
Susan Mullinax, Legal Advertising Representative

Jeanne M. Gullic  
Jeanne M. Gullic  
Notary Public for the State of South Carolina  
My Commission Expires April 4, 2013

RECEIVED  
FEB 04 2005  
PSC SC  
DOCKETING DEPT.

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**PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA**  
DOCKETING DEPARTMENT  
**NOTICE OF FILING AND  
HEARING**

DOCKET NO. 1997-239-C  
The Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the "Commission") received a letter from the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS) wherein the ORS seeks authorization to utilize Universal Service Fund (USF) monies to increase awareness of the State's Lifeline and Link-up programs and to qualify households in the BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. (BellSouth) territory that are 125% of poverty level and are eligible to receive benefits of these services. According to ORS' letter, the Commission's Order No. 2001-996 states, "The Commission shall take the necessary steps to maximize the benefit of the FCC's federal Lifeline program for qualified telecommunications customers in the State of South Carolina." (p. 10 of the Guidelines). Moreover, the ORS would like to assist BellSouth in extending this program to those households in the BellSouth territory that are at or below 125% of poverty. Pursuant to a settlement agreement filed May 19, 2004, in the Court of Common Pleas between the Consumer Advocate and BellSouth ("125% Agreement"), BellSouth may provide Lifeline credits to qualifying BellSouth subscribers who are not currently receiving such credits. As per the 125% Agreement, if a designated South Carolina state agency confirms to BellSouth those applicants who are end user customers and are at or below 125% of the federal poverty level, those applicants will receive Lifeline credits against their telephone bills. Currently, only customers who are at or below 100% of the poverty level receive such credits. ORS also asserts that BellSouth has proposed that the ORS be designated as the agency to administer the program that provides credits to additional qualifying customers. The ORS has agreed to assume the responsibilities of administering this program upon the contingency that the Commission allows funds to be allocated to the USF administrative expense component. In order to qualify and educate participants in the Lifeline program, ORS will take a two-pronged approach. First, in order to capture those citizens who are not currently receiving Li-

feline benefits but are entitled to such, the ORS will implement an outreach campaign. Annual funding will be needed for a full time employee position in order to administer this part of the program. Second, while most participants are deemed eligible based on their participation in AFDC, Medicaid, or other benefit programs, those in the BellSouth 125% agreement would need to be qualified separately. To do this, ORS asserts that it would need the support of an additional staff member skilled in dealing with low income applicants and monies for other start-up costs, such as computer time, marketing, and training associated with the Lifeline program. The ORS requests these additional funds from the USF. A copy of the ORS' letter is on file in the offices of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, 101 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210 and is available on the Commission's website at [www.psc.state.sc.us](http://www.psc.state.sc.us). PLEASE TAKE NOTICE a hearing on the above matter has been scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, April 20, 2005, before the Commission in the Commission's Hearing Room at 101 Executive Center Drive, Saluda Building, Columbia, South Carolina 29210. Any person who wishes to participate in this matter, as a party of record with the right of cross-examination should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, on or before February 28, 2005 and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. Please refer to Docket No. 1997-239-C. Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing should notify the Docketing Department in writing at the address below, on or before February 28, 2005, and indicate the amount of time required for his presentation. Please refer to Docket No. 1997-239-C. Any person who wishes to be notified of any change in the hearing date, but does not wish to present testimony or be a party of record, may do so by notifying the Docketing Department in writing at the address below on or before February 28, 2005. Please refer to Docket No. 1997-239-C. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: Any person who wishes to have his or her comments considered as part of the official record of this proceeding MUST present such comments, in person, to the Commission during the hearing. Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission by dialing (803) 896-5110. Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
Attn: Docketing Department  
Post Office Drawer 11649  
Columbia, South Carolina 29211  
JAN-25-04

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2005 FEB -8 PM 3:42

SC PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

Melissa R. Purvis  
S C., - ATTN: ANITA STARNES PO DRAWER 11649  
Columbia SC 29211

Number of Copies: 1

## AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

# The Post and Courier

State of South Carolina

County of Charleston

Personally appeared before me the undersigned advertising  
Clerk of the above indicated newspaper published in the  
City of Charleston, County and State aforesaid, who, being  
duly sworn, says that the advertisement of

(Copy attached)

appeared in the issues of said newspaper on the following  
day(s):

01/29/2005

at a cost of \$ 323.10  
Account# 8965100PUB  
Order# C220SL6J  
P.O. Number: 1997-239-C

Subscribed and sworn to before

me this 2nd day  
of FEBRUARY  
A.D. 2005

*Heisha Eklund*  
Advertising Clerk

*Sherry Dubeny*  
NOTARY PUBLIC, S

My Commission expires

My Commission Expires 10/10/13  
Form 3020

PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKETING  
DEPARTMENT  
NOTICE OF FILING  
AND HEARING

DOCKET NO. 1997-239-C

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According to ORS' letter, the Commission's Order No. 2001-996 states, "The Commission shall take the necessary steps to maximize the benefit of the FCC's federal Lifeline program for qualified telecommunications customers in the State of South Carolina." (p. 10 of the Guidelines). Moreover, the ORS would like to assist BellSouth in extending this program to those households in the BellSouth territory that are at or below 125% of poverty. Pursuant to a settlement agreement filed May 19, 2004, in the Court of Common Pleas between the Consumer Advocate and BellSouth ("125% Agreement"), BellSouth may provide Lifeline credits to qualifying BellSouth subscribers who are not currently receiving such credits. As per the 125% Agreement, if a designated South Carolina state agency confirms to BellSouth those applicants who are end user customers and are at or below 125% of the federal poverty level, those applicants will receive Lifeline credits against their telephone bills. Currently, only customers who are at or below 100% of the poverty level receive such credits.

ORS also asserts that BellSouth has proposed that the ORS be designated as the agency to administer the program that provides credits to additional qualifying customers. The ORS has agreed to assume the responsibilities of administering this program upon the contingency that the Commission allows funds to be allocated to the USF administrative expense component.

In order to qualify and educate participants in the Lifeline program, ORS will take a two-pronged approach. First, in order to capture those citizens who are not currently receiving Lifeline benefits but are entitled to such, the ORS will implement an outreach campaign. Annual funding will be needed for a full time employee position in order to administer this part of the program. Second, while most participants are deemed eligible based on their participation in AFDC, Medicaid, or other benefit programs, those in the BellSouth

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THE STATE-RECORD CO., INC.  
Columbia, South Carolina  
publisher of

**The State**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF RICHLAND

Personally appeared before me, Peggy Lawrence, Advertising Sales Support Manager of THE STATE, and makes oath that the advertisement,

Notice of Filing and Hearing – 1997-239-C

was inserted in THE STATE, a daily newspaper of general circulation published in the City of Columbia, State and County aforesaid, in the issues of

January 31, 2005

*Peggy Lawrence*

Subscribed and sworn to before me

on this day February 7, 2005

*Peggy F. Hoffman*

Notary Public

My commission expires  
March 10, 2013

*"Errors- the liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion."*